its entire network in which most routes should make profit and a few routes may make losses. However, both the airlines constantly endeavour to improve its financial and operational performance by optimising utilisation of its resources. Some of the steps taken by both the airlines are as under:

Air India: (i) Additional A-310 aircraft capacity is being inducted through dry-lease; (ii) The short haul flights to Gulf are being replaced by A-310 aircraft instead of 747s; (iii) Sectors are being combined to increase the load factor thereby reducing costs and increasing revenues; (iv) Older AB4 aircraft have been withdrawn and replaced by A-310 aircraft and (v) Three old 747-200 aircraft which consume a lot of fuel are being withdrawn from operations.

Indian Airlines: (i) Comprehensive budgetary control system; (ii) Cost benefit analysis; (iii) Introduction of "Flexi Fare Policy;" (iv) Fare increase; (v) Better fleet & other resource utilisation; (vi) Improvement in quality of products/consumer services; (vii) Marketing initiatives; and (viii) Cost Control and Economic measures.

Airport at Greater Noida

†1356. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop an airport at Greater Noida for the operation of national and international flights;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) to (c) There is a proposal from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to develop Taj International Airport and Aviation Hub. The proposal is at a preliminary stage.

Vacant posts in AAI

†1357. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Chairman, Member (Operation), Member (P&A), Member (Finance), Member (Engineering) are pending since long in Airports Authority of India;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.